

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of collecting statistics in a database management system comprising a plurality of collection objects, at least one collection object of the plurality of collection objects comprising at least one table, comprising:

receiving a workload comprising a plurality of database queries;

identifying query statistics for the database queries;

consolidating the query statistics for the database queries to provide consolidated statistics; and

generating at least one or more statistics collection task tasks based on the consolidated statistics.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the database management system comprises one or more collection objects and the consolidated statistics are associated with at least a subset of the collection objects, and said generating generates the one or more statistics collection tasks for respective collection objects of the subset based on the consolidated statistics at least one statistics collection task is to collect database statistics associated with the at least one table of at the least one collection object of the plurality of collection objects.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1[[2]] wherein said generating generates one statistics collection task for each collection object of the a subset of the plurality of collection objects based on the consolidated statistics.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1[[2]] wherein the collection objects are table spaces.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein a particular collection object of the plurality of collection objects comprises a plurality of tables, the query statistics comprise table information for a plurality of tables, the tables being associated with collection objects, wherein said generating generates a particular statistics collection task to collect database statistics for the plurality of tables of the particular collection object~~groups the statistics collection tasks for the tables by collection object.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1[[5]] wherein the plurality of collection objects comprise a plurality of tables, each table of the plurality of tables is associated with a table score based on, at least in part, a number of references to the said each table by the queries of the workload, further comprising:

determining a collection object score for each collection object of the plurality of collection objects based on, at least in part, the table score of at least one table of said each scores for the associated tables of the collection object to provide collection object scores. wherein said generating generates the statistics collection tasks for the collection objects in accordance with the collection object scores.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein the table score is also based on, at least in part, a cost of the queries referencing the said each table.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the query statistics comprise column information, and when a column specified in the column information is part of an index, generating an index portion of the at least one statistics collection task to collect request database statistics for that column.

Claim 9 (currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium embodying one or more instructions executable by a computer for performing a method of collecting statistics in a database management system comprising a plurality of collection objects, at least one collection object of the plurality of collection objects comprising at least one table, the method comprising:

receiving a workload comprising a plurality of database queries;

identifying query statistics for the database queries;

consolidating the query statistics for the database queries to provide consolidated statistics; and

generating at least one or more statistics collection task based on the consolidated statistics.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 9 wherein the database management system comprises one or more collection objects and the consolidated statistics are associated with at least a subset of the collection objects, and said generating generates the one or more statistics collection tasks for respective collection objects of the subset based on the consolidated statistics at least one statistics collection task is to collect database statistics associated with the at least one table of at the least one collection object of the plurality of collection objects.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 9[[10]] wherein said generating generates one statistics collection task for each collection object of the a subset of the plurality of collection objects based on the consolidated statistics.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 9[[11]] wherein the collection objects are table spaces.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 9 wherein a particular collection object of the plurality of collection objects comprises a plurality of tables, the

query statistics comprise table information for a plurality of tables, the tables being associated with collection objects, wherein said generating generates a particular statistics collection task to collect database statistics for the plurality of tables of the particular collection object groups the statistics collection tasks for the tables by collection object.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 9[[13]] wherein the plurality of collection objects comprise a plurality of tables, each table of the plurality of tables is associated with a table score based on, at least in part, a number of references to that table by the queries of the workload, further comprising:

determining a collection object score for each collection object of the plurality of collection objects based on, at least in part, the table score of at least one table of said each scores for the associated tables of the collection object to provide collection object scores, wherein said generating generates the statistics collection tasks for the collection objects in accordance with the collection object scores.[[.]])

Claim 15 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 14[[6]] wherein the table score is also based on, at least in part, a cost of the queries referencing said each the table.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 9[[1]] wherein the query statistics comprise column information, and when a column specified in the column information is part of an index, generating an index portion of the at least one statistics collection task to collect request database statistics for that column.

Claim 17 (currently amended): An apparatus for collecting statistics in a database management system comprising a plurality of collection objects, at least one collection object of the plurality of collection objects comprising at least one table, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory storing one or more instructions that:

receive a workload comprising a plurality of database queries;

identify query statistics for the database queries;  
consolidate the query statistics for the database queries to provide consolidated statistics; and  
generate at least one or more statistics collection task tasks based on the consolidated statistics.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the database management system comprises one or more collection objects and the consolidated statistics are associated with at least a subset of the collection objects, and said one or more instructions generate the one or more statistics collection tasks for respective collection objects of the subset based on the consolidated statistics at least one statistics collection task is to collect database statistics associated with the at least one table of at the least one collection object of the plurality of collection objects.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 17[[18]] wherein said one or more instructions also generate one statistics collection task for each a collection object of the plurality of collection objects.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 17[[18]] wherein the collection objects are tablespaces.